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COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

This declaration is of the following type:

- ☒ original
- ☐ divisional
- ☐ continuation
- ☐ continuation-in-part

INVENTORSHIP IDENTIFICATION

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name. I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

An Acetylene Distribution System

SPECIFICATION IDENTIFICATION

The specification of which:

- ☒ is filed herewith
- ☐ was filed on _____, under Serial No. _____, executed on even date herewith; or
- ☐ Express Mail No.(as Serial No. not yet known) and was amended on _____ (if applicable)
- ☐ was described and claimed in PCT International Application No. _____ filed on _____ and as amended under PCT Article 19 on _____.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information I know to be material to patentability in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56, and which is material to the examination of this application; namely, information where there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable Examiner would consider it important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent.

- ☐ In compliance with this duty there is attached an Information Disclosure Statement in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98.

PRIORITY CLAIM (35 U.S.C. §119)

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119, of any provisional or foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below, and have also identified below any provisional or foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed.

- ☐ No such applications have been filed.
☒ Such applications have been filed as follows:

A. Prior foreign/PCT application(s) filed within 12 mos. (6 mos. for design) prior to this application, and any priority claims under 35 USC §119

<u>Country/PCT</u>	<u>Application Number</u>	<u>Date Filed</u>	<u>Priority Claimed</u>
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

B. All foreign application(s), if any, filed more than 12 mos. (6 mos. for design) prior to this U.S. application

<u>Country/PCT</u>	<u>Application Number</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
--------------------	---------------------------	--------------------

C. U.S. Provisional Application filed within 12 months prior to this application

<u>Serial Number</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
60/404,028	16-Aug-02

PRIORITY CLAIM (35 USC §120)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120, of any United States application(s) or PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America that is/are listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that/those prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is material to the examination of this application (namely, information where there is substantial likelihood that a reasonable Examiner would consider it important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

- ☒ No such applications have been filed.
☐ Such applications have been filed, as follows:

<u>Serial Number</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Patented</u>	<u>Pending</u>	<u>Abandoned</u>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

POWER OF ATTORNEY

I hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

B. Todd Patterson	Registration No. 37,906
Raymond R. Moser, Jr.	Registration No. 34,682
Keith M. Tackett	Registration No. 32,008
Douglas H. Elliott	Registration No. 32,982
William B. Patterson	Registration No. 34,102
Walter C. Grollitsch	Registration No. 48,678

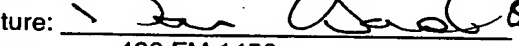
Send correspondence and direct telephone calls to:

B. Todd Patterson
MOSER, PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.
3040 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 1500
Houston, TX 77056
Telephone: 713/623/4844

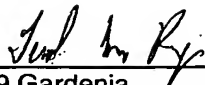
DECLARATION

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and, further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Sec. 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patents issued thereon.

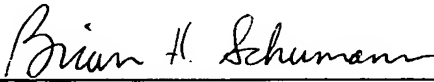
Full name of sole or first inventor: W. Dan Hord, III

Inventor's signature:  Date: 8-1-03
Residence: 400 FM 1456
Bellville, Texas 77418
U.S.A.
Post Office Address: Same as above Country of Citizenship: U.S.A.

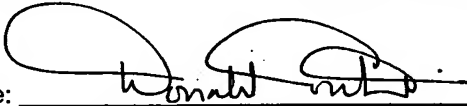
Full name of **second** inventor: Ted M. Royer

Inventor's signature:  Date: 8-11-03
Residence: 609 Gardenia
Orange, Texas 77630
Same as above Country of Citizenship: U.S.A.

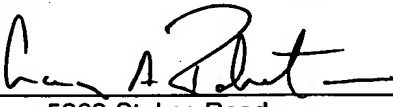
Full name of **third** inventor: Brian H. Schumann

Inventor's signature:  Date: 8/8/03
Residence: 102 Heritage Trail
Bellville, Texas 77418
U.S.A.
Post Office Address: Same as above Country of Citizenship: U.S.A.

Full name of **fourth** inventor: Donald F. Constantine

Inventor's signature:  Date: 8/11/03
Residence: 12151 W. Memory Lane
Conroe, Texas 77303
U.S.A.
Post Office Address: Same as above Country of Citizenship: U.S.A.

Full name of **fifth** inventor: Craig A. Robertson

Inventor's signature:  Date: 8/8/03
Residence: 5369 Stokes Road
Bellville, Texas 77418
U.S.A.
Post Office Address: Same as above Country of Citizenship: U.S.A.

Full name of **sixth** inventor:

Joseph Burghard

Inventor's signature:
Residence:

Joseph Burghard
615 Old 36 Road
Bellville, Texas 77418
U.S.A.

Date:

8/11/03

Post Office Address:

Same as above

Country of Citizenship: U.S.A.

(Declaration ends with this page)



WGS
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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND
DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

MARCH 10, 2004

PTAS

MOSER, PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.
B. TODD PATTERSON
3040 POST OAK BOULEVARD, SUITE 1500
HOUSTON, TX 77056



102532660A

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
NOTICE OF RECORDATION OF ASSIGNMENT DOCUMENT

THE ENCLOSED DOCUMENT HAS BEEN RECORDED BY THE ASSIGNMENT DIVISION OF THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE. A COMPLETE MICROFILM COPY IS AVAILABLE AT THE ASSIGNMENT SEARCH ROOM ON THE REEL AND FRAME NUMBER REFERENCED BELOW.

PLEASE REVIEW ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THIS NOTICE. THE INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THIS RECORDATION NOTICE REFLECTS THE DATA PRESENT IN THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK ASSIGNMENT SYSTEM. IF YOU SHOULD FIND ANY ERRORS OR HAVE QUESTIONS CONCERNING THIS NOTICE, YOU MAY CONTACT THE EMPLOYEE WHOSE NAME APPEARS ON THIS NOTICE AT 703-308-9723. PLEASE SEND REQUEST FOR CORRECTION TO: U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, ASSIGNMENT DIVISION, BOX ASSIGNMENTS, CG-4, 1213 JEFFERSON DAVIS HWY, SUITE 320, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231.

RECORDATION DATE: 08/14/2003

REEL/FRAME: 014401/0128
NUMBER OF PAGES: 3

BRIEF: ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNOR'S INTEREST (SEE DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS).

ASSIGNOR:
HORD, W. DAN III

DOC DATE: 08/12/2003

ASSIGNOR:
ROYER, TED M.

DOC DATE: 08/11/2003

ASSIGNOR:
SCHUMANN, BRIAN H.

DOC DATE: 08/08/2003

ASSIGNOR:
CONSTANTINE, DONALD F.

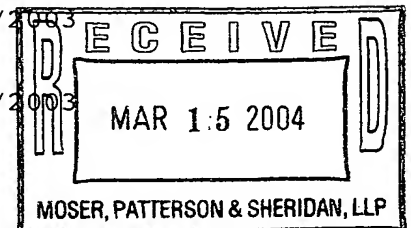
DOC DATE: 08/11/2003

ASSIGNOR:
ROBERTSON, CRAIG A.

DOC DATE: 08/08/2003

ASSIGNOR:
BURGHARD, JOSEPH

DOC DATE: 08/11/2003



014401/0128 PAGE 2

ASSIGNEE:

WESTERN INTERNATIONAL GAS &
CYLINDER INC.
7173 HWY 150 EAST
BELLVILLE, TEXAS 77418

SERIAL NUMBER: 10641204
PATENT NUMBER:

FILING DATE: 08/14/2003
ISSUE DATE:

JOANN STEWART, EXAMINER
ASSIGNMENT DIVISION
OFFICE OF PUBLIC RECORDS

08-22-2003

102532660
PATENTS ONLYFORM PTO-1595
(Rev. 8-93)

OMB No. 0651-0011 (exp. 4/94)

U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark Office

To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original document or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies): Date
 W. Dan Hord, III August 12, 2003
 Ted M. Royer August 11, 2003
 Brian H. Schumann August 8, 2003
 Donald F. Constantine August 11, 2003
 Craig A. Robertson August 8, 2003
 Joseph Burghard August 11, 2003

Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? ☐ Yes ☒ No

3. Nature of conveyance:

☒ Assignment ☐ Merger
☐ Security Agreement ☐ Change of Name
☐ Other

Execution Date: _____

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):

Name: Western International Gas & Cylinder Inc.

Internal Address: _____

Street Address: 7173 Hwy 150 EastCity: Bellville State: TX Zip: 77418Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? ☐ Yes ☒ No

4. Application number(s) or registration number(s):

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: August 14, 2003

A. Patent Application No.(s)

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached? ☐ Yes ☒ No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:

Name: B. Todd PattersonInternal Address: MOSER, PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.Street Address: 3040 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 1500City: Houston State: TX Zip: 770566. Total number of applications and patents involved: 17. Total fee (37 C.F.R. 3.41)----- \$ 40.00☐ Enclosed☒ Authorized to be charged to deposit account20-0782/WEST/0005/BTP

8. Deposit account number:

20-0782/WEST/0005/BTP

DO NOT USE THIS SPACE

9. Statement and signature.

To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.

Walter C. Grollitsch, Reg. No. 48,678

Name of Person Signing

Signature

Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments and document: 3

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:
 Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Box Assignments
 Washington, D.C. 20231

ASSIGNMENT FOR APPLICATION FOR PATENT**WHEREAS:**

Names and Addresses of Inventors:

1)	W. Dan Hord, III 400 FM 1456 Bellville, Texas 77418 U.S.A.	2)	Ted M. Royer 609 Gardenia Orange, Texas 77630 U.S.A.
3)	Brian H. Schumann 102 Heritage Trail Bellville, Texas 77418 U.S.A.	4)	Donald F. Constantine 12151 W. Memory Lane Conroe, Texas 77303 U.S.A.
5)	Craig A. Robertson 5369 Stokes Road Bellville, Texas 77418 U.S.A.	6)	Joseph Burghard 615 Old 36 Road Bellville, Texas 77418 U.S.A.

(hereinafter referred to as Assignors), have invented a certain invention entitled:

AN ACETYLENE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

enclosed herewith or for which application for Letters Patent in the United States was filed on August 14, 2003, under Serial No. _____, executed on even date herewith; and

WHEREAS, Western International Gas & Cylinder Inc., a corporation of the State of Texas, having a place of business at 7173 Hwy 159 East, Bellville, Texas 77418 (hereinafter referred to as Assignee), is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to said application (hereinafter referred to as Application), and the invention disclosed therein (hereinafter referred to as Invention), and in and to all embodiments of the Invention, heretofore conceived, made or discovered by said Assignors, and in and to any and all patents, inventor's certificates and other forms of protection (hereinafter referred to as Patents) thereon granted in any and all countries and groups of countries.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of good and valuable consideration acknowledged by said Assignors to have been received in full from said Assignee:

1. Said Assignors hereby sell, assign, transfer and convey to Assignee the full and exclusive right, title and interest (a) in and to said Application and said Invention; (b) in and to all rights to apply for patents on said Invention in any and all countries pursuant to the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property or otherwise; (c) in and to any and all Applications filed and any and all Patents granted on said Invention in any and all countries and groups of countries, including each and every Application filed and each and every Patent granted on any application which is a division, substitution, or continuation of said Application; and (d) in and to each and every reissue or extension of any of said Patents.


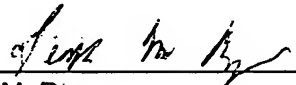

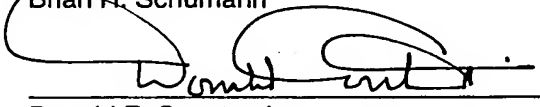


2. Said Assignors hereby covenant and agree to cooperate with said Assignee to enable said Assignee to enjoy to the fullest extent the right, title and interest to said Invention herein conveyed in any and all countries and groups of countries. Such cooperation by said Assignors shall include prompt production of pertinent facts and documents, giving testimony, execution of petitions, oaths, specifications, declarations or other papers, and other assistance all to the extent deemed

necessary or desirable by said Assignee (a) for perfecting in said Assignee the right, title and interest herein conveyed; (b) for prosecuting any of said applications; (c) for filing and prosecuting substitute, divisional, continuing or additional applications covering said Invention; (d) for filing and prosecuting applications for reissuance of any of said Patents; (e) for interference or other priority proceedings involving said Invention; and (f) for legal proceedings involving said Invention and any application therefore and any Patents granted thereon, including without limitation opposition proceedings, cancellation proceedings, priority contests, public use proceedings, infringement actions and court actions; provided, however, that the expense incurred by said Assignors in providing such cooperation shall be paid for by said Assignee.

3. The term and covenants of this agreement shall inure to the benefit of said Assignee, its successors, assigns and other legal representatives, and shall be binding upon said Assignors, their respective heirs, legal representatives and assigns.

4. Said Assignors hereby warrant and represent that they have not entered and will not enter into any assignment, contract, or understanding in conflict herewith.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said Assignors have executed and delivered this instrument to said Assignee on the dates indicated below.

1)	<u>8-12-03</u> (DATE)	<u></u> W. Dan Hord, III
2)	<u>8-11-03</u> (DATE)	<u></u> Ted M. Royer
3)	<u>8/8/03</u> (DATE)	<u></u> Brian H. Schumann
4)	<u>8/11/03</u> (DATE)	<u></u> Donald F. Constantine
5)	<u>8/8/03</u> (DATE)	<u></u> Craig A. Robertson
6)	<u>8/11/03</u> (DATE)	<u></u> Joseph Burghard